

## Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00  
DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01  
PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 AID-05 OIC-02 PC-01 DHA-02 IO-13  
/073 R

DRAFTED BY USOAS:MDION:MCH  
APPROVED BY ARA:WLUERS  
ARA/AND:DCOX  
USOAS:WMATTHEWS  
ARA/AND:RDRISCOLL

-----151729Z 050575 /43

O 151606Z PEB 77  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO IMMEDIATE  
INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 033999

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, OAS, HR

SUBJECT: GOC INQUIRY ON OAS MATTERS

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REF: BOGOTA 01354

1. PERMANENT COUNCIL OF OAS WILL ALMOST CERTAINLY VOTE  
TO SET FIRM DATE FOR VII OASGA IN GRENADA, PROBABLY ON  
JUNE 14, AT ITS REGULAR SESSION WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 16.  
FYI: US DELEGATION HAS USED EVERY OCCASION SINCE GRENADA'S  
INVITATION WAS ACCEPTED AT SANTIAGO TO POINT OUT SEVERE  
SUPPORT AND LOGISTICAL PROBLEMS CITED IN REFTTEL BUT NO  
OTHER DELEGATION WOULD JOIN US IN QUIET EFFORT TO SWITCH  
VENUE. END FYI. WE AGREE WITH GOC THAT EXPENSE AND  
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DIFFICULTIES MAKE ALMOST ANY OTHER SITE PREFERABLE BUT  
RELUCTANCE OF OAS DELEGATIONS TO EMBARRASS GRENADA HAS  
LEFT LITTLE ALTERNATIVE BUT TO GO ALONG WITH DECISION OF  
VI OASGA. SHOULD IT BECOME CLEAR TO ALL THAT GRENADA IS  
IN FACT INCAPABLE OF HOLDING THE CONFERENCE, HEADQUARTERS  
(WASHINGTON) WILL ALMOST CERTAINLY HAVE TO BE DESIGNATED

AS SITE RATHER THAN OTHER OAS CAPITAL DUE TO IMPOSSIBILITY OF COMPLETING ALTERNATIVE ARRANGEMENTS PRIOR TO JUNE 30 DEADLINE FOR ASSEMBLY.

2. SUBCOMMITTEE ON AGENDA FOR VII OASGA WILL MEET FEBRUARY

15 TO TAKE UP ARGENTINE PROPOSAL TO ELIMINATE SEPARATE ITEM ON STATUS OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN CHILE. INITIAL MOVE IN LATE JANUARY WAS POSTPONED PENDING RESULTS OF IAHC SPECIAL SESSION TO CONSIDER PREPARING A THIRD EXTRA-ORDINARY REPORT ON CHILE. IAHC HAS NOW DECIDED TO DO NEW CHILE REPORT. US POSITION WAS COMMUNICATED TO CHILEANS ORALLY FOLLOWING FIRST SUBCOMMITTEE SESSION: IF IAHC DOES CHILE REPORT, WE WILL SUPPORT VENEZUELA'S EFFORT TO RETAIN CHILE AS AGENDA ITEM. GIVEN IAHC DECISION, WE WILL VOTE WITH VENEZUELA WHEN ISSUE NEXT COMES BEFORE SUBCOMMITTEE, PROBABLY AT FEBRUARY 15 SESSION. IF CHILE OR ANOTHER DELEGATION PROPOSES MAKE LASTYEAR'S IAHC REPORT ON CUBA ANOTHER AGENDA ITEM, OR A PART OF OVERALL IAHC ITEM THAT ARGENTINA IS PROPOSING, WE WILL ALSO SUPPORT THAT PROPOSAL. END COMMUNICATION TO CHILEANS. BEGIN FYI: WE RECOGNIZE THAT DELEGATIONS BACKING CHILE HAVE LIKELY MAJORITY IN SUBCOMMITTEE. WE WOULD WELCOME COLOMBIA'S SUPPORT FOR POSITION OF PRINCIPLE, I.E., RESOLUTION 243 OF VI OASGA WAS COMPROMISE THAT LEFT DECISION ON NEW CHILE REPORT TO IAHC--IT HAS DECIDED AND ITS EFFORT DESERVES STATUS OF SEPARATE AGENDA ITEM. END FYI.

3. FOR SANTIAGO: BOGOTA'S REFTTEL, INTER ALIA, INDICATED  
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COLOMBIA FONOFF CONSULTED RE RESPONSE TO ARGENTINA'S MOVE (SUPPORTED BY CHILE) TO CONSOLIDATE IAHC REPORTS INTO ONE DOCUMENT. COLOMBIAN FONOFF SPOKESMAN FELT THIS WOULD HELP ENSURE MAJORITY VOTE AGAINST CONSOLIDATED IAHC REPORT, SINCE REPORT WOULD THEN CONTAIN ALLEGATIONS AGAINST MOST COUNTRIES. EMBASSY OF CHILE SUBMITTED TO US NOTE REQUESTING SUPPORT AGAINST SEPARATE AGENDA ITEM ON CHILE. WE ARE INCLINED TO RESPOND ORALLY PER ABOVE PARAGRAPH BY REITERATING OUR EARLIER ORAL REACTION, RATHER THAN BY NOTE FORMALLY REJECTING CHILE'S REQUEST. UNEXPECTED ADVANCEMENT OF PRELIMINARY VOTE TO FEBRUARY 15 RULED OUT OUR PRIOR CONSULTATION WITH EMBASSY SANTIAGO ON THIS ISSUE, BUT WE WOULD WELCOME EMBASSY SANTIAGO'S COMMENTS, SINCE OTHER VOTES WILL FOLLOW ON SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS.  
HARTMAN

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NNN

\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* CONFIDENTIAL

## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**TAGS:** OCON, PFOR, CO, GJ, US, OAS  
**To:** BOGOTA SANTIAGO  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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